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# Washington University Record, January 15, 2009

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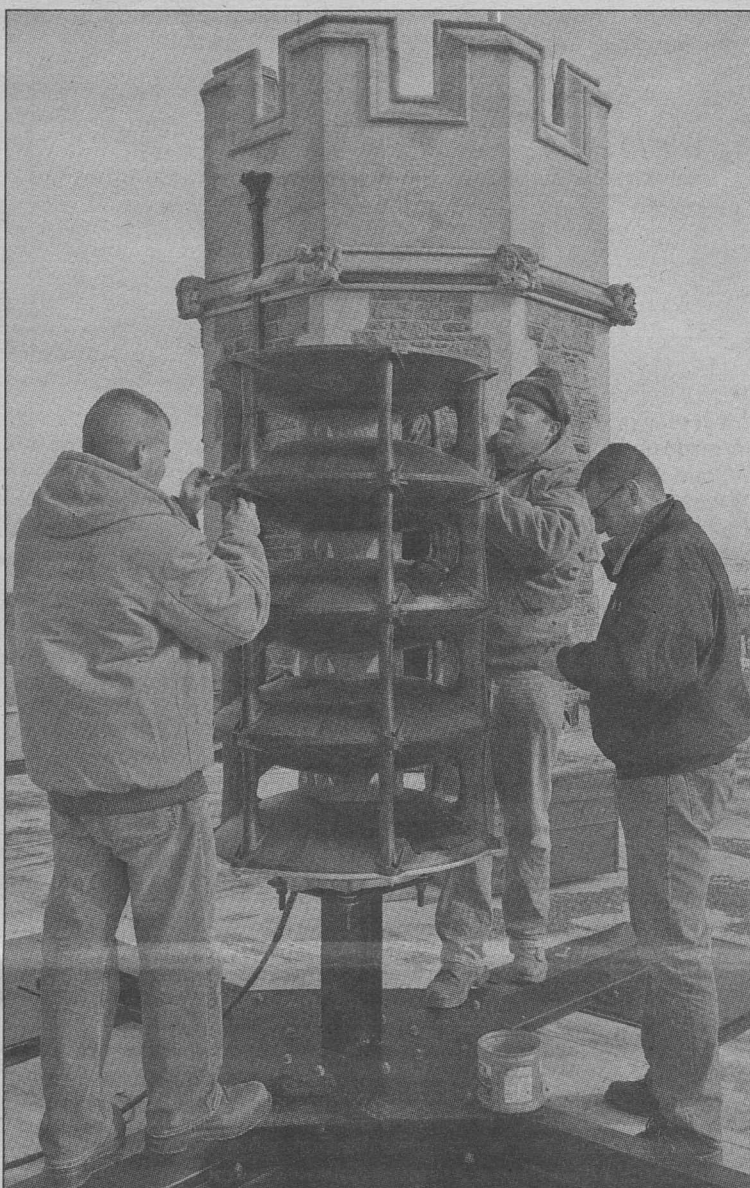
# Record



Washington University in St. Louis

Jan. 15, 2009

record.wustl.edu



A crew from Global Technical Systems Inc. installs an emergency siren on the roof of Brookings Hall Jan. 5. A siren also was installed on the roof of Seigle Hall. The sirens will be painted gray or sky-blue this spring to better blend in against the landscape.

## New Danforth Campus sirens another form of emergency communication

By JESSICA DAUES

Washington University installed warning sirens on the roofs of Brookings Hall and Seigle Hall Jan. 5. A third siren will be installed on a building in the South 40 this spring.

The sirens, part of WUSTL's Emergency Notification System, broadcast both warning tones and voice messages and will be used to alert the campus to severe weather, hazardous-material spills, fires, violence on campus or other emergency situations. Once all three sirens are in place, emergency messages will be audible outdoors throughout the Danforth Campus.

"When alerting the community of a crisis, early notification is critical," said Bruce Backus, assistant vice chancellor for environmental health and safety.

"The use of sirens, along with other means of emergency communication, will help to quickly inform the community of an emergency and help students, faculty, staff and visitors take appropriate action to keep themselves and their colleagues safe," Backus said.

In addition to the sirens, the University's Emergency Notification System also notifies the WUSTL community of emergencies via text messages, phone calls,

e-mails, the emergency Web site (emergency.wustl.edu) and an emergency hotline (935-9000 locally or toll-free 888-234-2863).

WUSTL community members can sign up to receive text messages on their cell phones at emergency.wustl.edu.

"The University is working hard not to rely on any one mode of communication in an emergency," said Matthew Arthur, director of incident communications solutions. "The presence of sirens on the Danforth Campus adds to the University's ability to get information to as many people as possible as quickly as possible."

Other universities that use siren systems similar to WUSTL's include Northwestern University, Cornell University, Ithaca College and the University of New Hampshire.

If an emergency occurs, a siren will sound, and a voice will briefly describe the nature of the emergency. Though the voice may provide instructions, the University community should review information about what to do in a particular situation before a crisis occurs. Instructions on how to react in different emergencies can be found at emergency.wustl.edu.

See Sirens, Page 2

## Estrogen can benefit women with metastatic breast cancer

By GWEN ERICSON

For breast cancer survivors, the idea of taking estrogen pills is almost a taboo. In fact, their doctors give them drugs to get rid of the hormone because it can fuel the growth of breast cancer.

So these women probably would be surprised by the approach taken by breast cancer physician Matthew Ellis, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of medicine at the School of Medicine, who has demonstrated that estrogen therapy can help control metastatic breast cancer.

In a study presented at the 31st annual San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, Ellis showed that for about a third of the 66 participants — women with metastatic breast cancer that had developed resistance to standard estrogen-lowering therapy — a daily dose of estrogen could stop the growth of tumors or even cause them to shrink. The study was funded by the Avon Foundation through the National Cancer Institute and included six cancer centers in the United States.

Ellis said estrogen therapy offers an appealing alternative to chemotherapy for metastatic breast cancer that has become resistant to estrogen-lowering agents called aromatase inhibitors. These drugs deplete the body of estrogen and are standard treatments for hormone-receptor positive breast cancers, which account for about 75 percent of breast cancer cases.

"By stabilizing or shrinking tumors in some women with metastatic breast cancer, estrogen therapy can relieve pain and other symptoms of cancer and can potentially prolong lives," said Ellis, an oncologist with the Siteman Cancer Center. "And, unlike chemotherapy, estrogen enhances the quality of life. For many of our patients, their hot flashes disappear, and they lose other symptoms of menopause. It's a natural treatment for breast cancer. Not only that, it's much cheaper than chemotherapy, costing less than a dollar a day."

Furthermore, estrogen seems able to return metastatic tumors to a vulnerable state in which they again can be affected by aromatase inhibitors.

"We thought acquired resistance to aromatase inhibitor therapy was permanent," Ellis said. "But now we've shown that in some patients giving estrogen can make it possible to cycle back to aromatase inhibitors, and they can work again."

About 40,000 women die of metastatic breast cancer each year, and estrogen therapy potentially could help thousands of women with hormone receptor-positive disease, Ellis said.

The study measured how many women with aromatase inhibitor therapy-resistant metastatic breast cancer responded to estrogen therapy. All study participants had estrogen-receptor positive tumors that had spread to their bones, livers or lungs. The women

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## Check your risk of major diseases with new, secure tool

By BETH MILLER

After spending summer weekends at the pool, have you ever wondered about your risk for skin cancer? Ever wondered if your great-grandmother's diabetes increases your risk for the disease? Now, an easy and secure Internet tool determines your risk with just a few clicks of a mouse: Your Health Snapshot.

Modeled after Your Disease Risk, created by Graham Colditz, M.D., Ph.D., the Niess-Gain Professor of Surgery, professor of medicine and associate director of Prevention and Control at Siteman Cancer Center, Your Health Snapshot is a confidential site that members of the Washington University community can use to determine their risk for various cancers, stroke, heart disease,

diabetes and osteoporosis and to learn prevention strategies.

To start, users log onto yourhealthsnapshot.wustl.edu and answer simple questions about their medical history, eating habits, exercise and other behaviors. The result is a personalized estimate of a person's risk for these diseases.

What sets Your Health Snapshot apart from Your Disease Risk is the addition of a very brief opening questionnaire and the ability to create a personal user account. The 15-20 item opening questionnaire provides a quick overview of a person's risk of six key diseases and acts as a guide that shows which diseases someone may want to explore further on the site.

The addition of personal user accounts means that users will be

able to return to the site and track their results and certain behaviors over time, a function not available on Your Disease Risk.

The University's Wellness Council has worked with Colditz to create a tool specifically for faculty, staff and students to be used to measure the health of its community. The site's health information is backed by recent evidence from the medical community to assure that users are up to date.

"Your Health Snapshot should be a great tool for helping people lead healthier lives," Colditz said. "In addition to being able to find out their risk of diseases like cancer, heart disease, diabetes and osteoporosis, the site offers personalized tips for lowering risks as well as positive feedback on things

See Risk, Page 2

## Campus ready for another round of RecycleMania Challenge is to reduce, reuse, recycle and build on last year's success

By JESSICA DAUES

WUSTL's No. 21 national ranking in last year's RecycleMania competition was impressive, but the Office of Sustainability is challenging WUSTL to finish even higher in the 2009 RecycleMania contest, which begins Sunday, Jan. 18.

RecycleMania is an annual competition administered by the National Recycling Coalition. It pits WUSTL against other U.S. colleges and universities to see which campus can prevent the most materials from being buried in a landfill.

RecycleMania lasts 10 weeks and ends March 28.

Last year, WUSTL recycled 489,759 pounds of waste to rank No. 1 in the state of Missouri,

No. 9 (out of 99) among private colleges and universities and No. 21 overall (out of 200) in the annual RecycleMania contest's Gorilla category, which is based on total recycled materials collected.

The University recycled more than 21 pounds per person over the course of the competition. For its efforts, WUSTL was recognized in December 2008 with an Excellence Award from the Missouri Recycling Association.

"RecycleMania is a terrific competition," said Matt Malten, assistant vice chancellor for sustainability. "It serves to remind us all of the importance of the three Rs — reduce, reuse and recycle — and that preventing the landfill of valuable, useable materials is a simple way all of us can be environmental stewards."

While the campus encourages recycling at all times, all faculty, staff and students are strongly encouraged to reduce, reuse and recycle during the competition to re-emphasize the importance of reducing landfill waste and to help WUSTL defeat fellow schools.

The University first participated in RecycleMania in 2003, the contest's third year, when WUSTL ranked last among eight competing schools in the Per Capita award, which measures the amount of recycled goods per person. WUSTL has dramatically improved its standing since then, finishing a respectable No. 47 of 175 schools (2007) and No. 49 of 180 schools (2008) in the Per Capita category the past two years.

The University hopes to

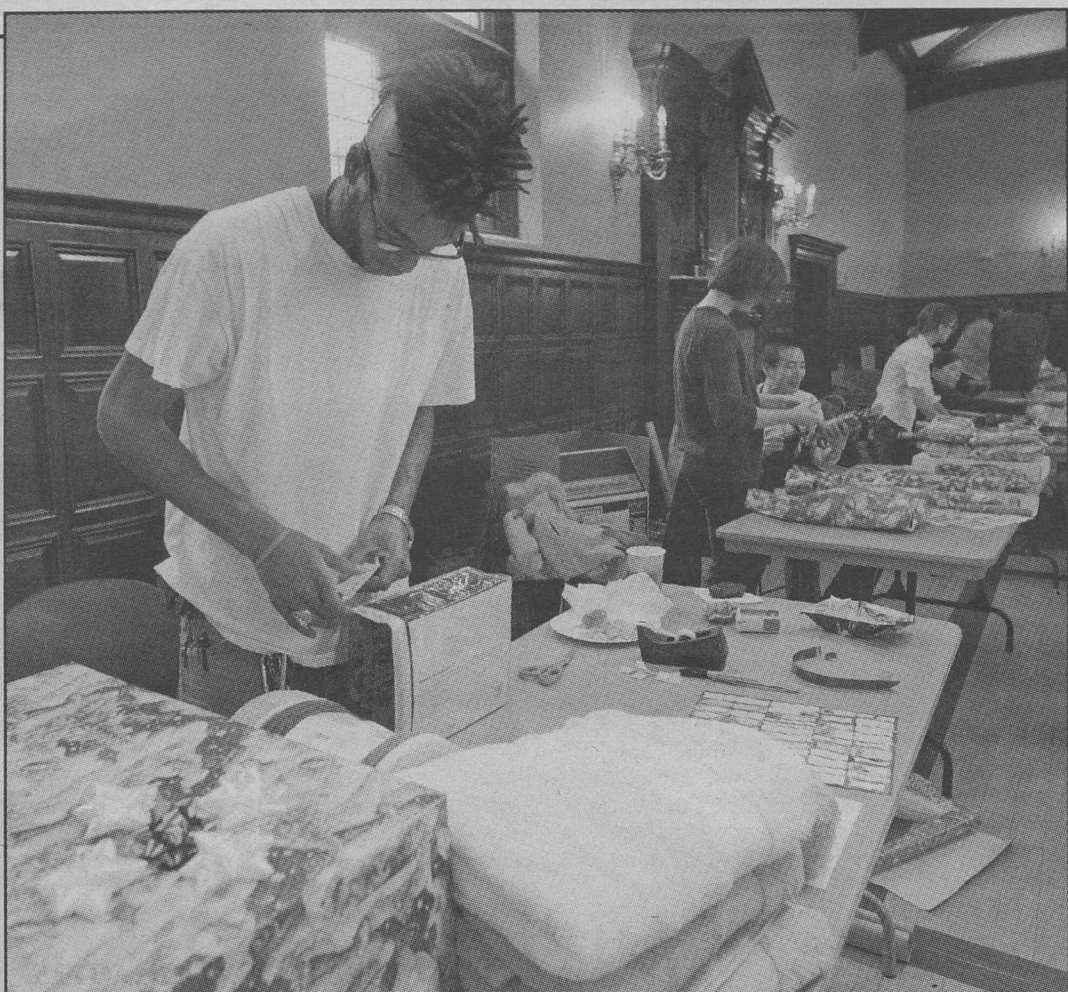
See Recycle, Page 2

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**That's a wrap** Students and staff members gather in Umrath Hall Nov. 15 to wrap hundreds of gifts received during Washington University's annual Give Thanks Give Back campaign. WUSTL employees "adopted" 106 families during the 2008 holiday season, donating gifts, clothing, household appliances and other items to more than 310 St. Louis-area residents struggling to overcome poverty. Give Thanks Give Back supports 100 Neediest Cases, a joint project of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and the United Way.

## Risk

**Web site offers tips for staying healthy**  
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they're already doing well."

Colditz said one of the key features of Your Health Snapshot is its Wellness Lab, which gathers a person's main health messages into one place.

"The Wellness Lab shows what someone can change to improve his or her health, what he or she is already doing well and what screening tests he or she should have regularly," he said. "It also has a library of past results and the Health Tracker, which has tools to help people keep track of weight and number of steps walked each day."

From the data, which will be

anonymous, unidentifiable and confidential, the Wellness Council will receive broad-based reports on health risks that groups of employees face. Colditz and a team of health researchers will relay the data to the Wellness Council so the University can better target its wellness initiatives. For example, if rates of exercise are low for the WUSTL community as a whole, the Wellness Council can plan activities to help boost physical activity.

"Some fairly simple changes to how we live can have a huge impact on our health and well being," Colditz said. "More than half of all cancer and three-quarters of diseases like cardiovascular disease and diabetes could be prevented through healthier lifestyles. Your Health Snapshot offers people a personalized, straightforward and powerful

way to identify the changes they can make that will help improve their health and lower their risk for disease."

WUSTL's Information Technology team has implemented security measures to ensure that personal information entered into the site is stored in a secure environment accessible with a secure username and password established by the employee. The tool also can be used without creating a username and password; however, a user's information will not be stored for future reference.

"This is a straightforward tool that's simple to use," said Ann Prenatt, vice chancellor for human resources. "It is our hope that members of the University community will use the features of the Web site often to track their progress toward health goals."

## Recycle

**58.6 million pounds of waste recycled in 2008**  
— from Page 1

achieve a top 10 performance this year but is focused on long-term success.

"While we have consistently improved our performance in RecycleMania, we know that improving the University's overall recycling rate is a huge area of opportunity," Malten said. "Throughout the year, our solid-waste recycling rate averages about 7 percent to 9 percent. Last year during RecycleMania, it was above 17 percent."

"One of our aspirational goals is to achieve 35 percent recycling rate throughout the year," Malten said. "So, we have much more to accomplish, and we'll need every member of our campus community to do his or her part to get there. To help with this effort, the University will work to help educate and market recycling programs to students, faculty and staff throughout the year."

In particular, WUSTL is monitoring the total pounds of paper, corrugated cardboard, bottles and cans it recycles on a weekly basis. The University's Office of Sustainability monitors and submits WUSTL's information to



**Then-Gov. Matt Blunt (left) presents the Missouri Recycling Association's Excellence Award to Donna Hall, environmental compliance manager, and Bruce Backus, assistant vice chancellor for environmental health and safety, at a Dec. 15 ceremony at the State Capitol building. WUSTL received the award in recognition for its excellent performance in the 2008 RecycleMania contest. WUSTL finished No. 1 among Missouri universities and colleges.**

RecycleMania administrators.

Each week, standings are posted online to help motivate campuses to continue recycling. Awards are given to the schools that recycle the greatest overall amount of recyclables (Gorilla) and the greatest percentage of their overall waste (Grand Champion) and greatest amount of recyclables per person (Per

Capita Classic). Schools with the most paper, beverage containers, cardboard and food waste recycled also are recognized.

Last year, 58.6 million pounds of waste were recycled through RecycleMania. To track WUSTL's weekly standings in the RecycleMania competition, visit [recyclemaniacs.org/results.aspx](http://recyclemaniacs.org/results.aspx) or [sustain.wustl.edu](http://sustain.wustl.edu).

## University honors legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.

By NEIL SCHOENHERR

**"Shattering Ceilings: Celebrating Success in Pursuit of 'The Dream'"** is the theme of Washington University's 22nd annual celebration honoring Martin Luther King Jr. at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19, in Graham Chapel.

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton will begin the program with a welcome and remarks. Camille A. Nelson, visiting professor of law, will present "Pursuing the Dream: Revisiting Dr. King's Message in the Age of Obama."

The Rosa L. Parks Award for Meritorious Service to the Community also will be presented.

The program will include musical performances from Afriky Lolo, a nationally acclaimed West African dance company based in St. Louis; the University City High School Jazz Band; and WUSTL student groups Black Anthology, Visions Gospel Choir, Sur Awaaz South Asian a capella group and The Greenleafs female a capella group.

A reception in the Danforth University Center will follow the program. For more information, call 935-5965.

Other MLK events:

- The Human Race Machine, sponsored by the Assembly Series, is a photo booth that takes a person's picture and then shows what that person would look like as an Asian, Hispanic, Indian, Middle Eastern, black or

Caucasian person. The aim of the project is to generate a different way of talking about race, identity and other issues that divide Americans. The booth will be available through the evening of Friday, Jan. 16, in the north lobby of the Danforth University Center. For more information, call 935-4620.

- The School of Medicine will present its annual Martin Luther King Jr. celebration lecture at 4 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19, in the Eric P. Newman Education Center. William Julius Wilson, Ph.D., the Lewis P. and Linda L. Geyser University Professor at Harvard University, will present "Framing the Issue: Political Discourse and Race Relations in the Barack Obama Era." A sociologist and leading scholar on urban poverty, Wilson is the director of the Joblessness and Urban Poverty Research Program at Harvard's Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy. For more information, call 362-6854.

Additionally, the School of Law and the Black Law Students Association will host prominent criminal defense attorney and civil rights advocate Michael Pinard, J.D., as the 2009 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Speaker Jan. 22; and the Society of Black Student Social Workers at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work will host "Financial Freedom Seminar: Achieving Economic Independence Through Education" Saturday, Jan. 17.

## New gift increases number of social change grants available to students

By NEIL SCHOENHERR

**U**p to \$22,000 is now available to WUSTL students for the development and implementation of innovative community projects during the summer in the form of social change grants through the Community Service Office.

A new gift from Max and Judith Stern will provide funding for a second Stern Social Change Grant this year. The first grant was established in 2000 to provide students with the means to pursue creative and meaningful activities geared toward finding solutions to society's needs.

Both Stern grants will provide \$6,000 each, are open to all undergraduate students and may be used for domestic or international projects.

Two other grants are available:

- The \$5,000 Kaldi's Social Change Grant was established in 2005 to provide students with the opportunity to develop sustainable community projects in the St. Louis region. All undergraduates are eligible.
- The \$5,000 Gephardt Social

Change Grant is funded by supporters of the Gephardt Institute for Public Service and supports international civic engagement or service projects demonstrating the capacity for sustainable impact on an identified community issue.

All students, including graduate and professional students, are eligible to apply for a Gephardt grant.

The deadline for proposals for all grants is Feb. 20, and students may submit proposals for multiple grants if they meet eligibility requirements.

Social change grants provide a unique opportunity for students to receive funding to pursue an independent summer project in the spirit of social entrepreneurship. Students can use the funding to pay themselves a salary in lieu of summer work, to defray living expenses or to cover travel and project expenses. Individuals or teams can apply.

For more information, call Mary Zabriskie at 935-7199 or visit [communityservice.wustl.edu/grants](http://communityservice.wustl.edu/grants).

## Sirens

**Review information at [emergency.wustl.edu](http://emergency.wustl.edu)**  
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The sirens will be tested the first Monday of the month at 11 a.m.

WUSTL is working to get alerts from the sirens broadcast indoors into the Danforth University Center and other Danforth Campus buildings through public-address systems and digital signage.

The University also will program the sirens to notify the North Campus Security office, West Campus Data Center, Tyson Research Center, Medical School Protective Services Dispatch Center and South Campus maintenance office in an emergency.

The School of Medicine is investigating the possibility of adding indoor and outdoor sirens as well.

For more information about the Emergency Notification System, contact Mark Bagby, University disaster coordinator, at [bagbym@wustl.edu](mailto:bagbym@wustl.edu).



## School of Medicine Update

# Mann named director of Cardiovascular Division

BY GWEN ERICSON

**D**ouglas L. Mann, M.D., has been named the Tobias and Hortense Lewin Professor and director of the Cardiovascular Division in the Department of Medicine.

The appointment will be effective in March 2009. He also will become cardiologist-in-chief at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and director of the new Heart and Vascular Institute at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University.

Mann is currently the Don W. Chapman, M.D., Chair of Cardiology and chief of the Section of Cardiology at Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Heart Institute at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital.

"I am delighted that Doug Mann will become our next chief of cardiology," said Kenneth S. Polonsky, M.D., the Adolphus Busch Professor and head of the Department of Medicine.

"He is a leading academic cardiologist with an outstanding reputation. We are impressed with Doug's broad vision for the division and his commitment to interdisciplinary programs in heart and vascular disease. We are fortunate to have been able to recruit someone of his stature."

Mann earned a medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia in 1979 and completed his residency in internal medicine at Temple University Hospital in 1982. He completed fellowship training in cardiology at the University of California, San Diego, and a research fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.



Mann

After an initial faculty appointment at the Medical University of South Carolina, Mann moved to Baylor College of Medicine in 1991 as chief of cardiology at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center. He became chief of the cardiology section at Baylor College in 2005. He also is professor of medicine and of molecular physiology and biophysics and the director of the Winters Center for Heart Failure Research.

"I am honored to be chosen as chief of cardiology at Washington University and cardiologist-in-chief at Barnes-Jewish Hospital," Mann said. "The quality of the faculty and the trainees at the School of Medicine is simply outstanding, and the health care at Barnes-Jewish Hospital is superb. I am looking forward to working with the University and hospital to continue the rich tradition of excellence in research, education and patient care that has established them as leaders in medicine."

Mann specializes in the field of congestive heart failure and has made numerous contributions to the understanding of cardiac remodeling and cardiac dysfunction. His research focuses on the molecular and cellular basis of heart failure, especially on the role of inflammatory mediators in the progression of heart failure.

In the position of division director, Mann succeeds Daniel P. Kelly, M.D., who became scientific director of the Burnham Institute for Medical Research-Lake Nona in Orlando, Fla., last year.

The newly formed Heart and Vascular Institute at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University is committed to providing breakthrough technological and research advances to improve patient care by integrating multiple services.

Mann will lead the strategic initiatives along with his colleagues in heart surgery and vascular surgery to expand services locally, regionally and nationally.

## The future of medicine is set in steel

BJC Institute of Health is on schedule to open in December 2009

**T**he future of medicine is taking shape at the heart of Washington University Medical Center.

Construction crews have framed the BJC Institute of Health at Washington University in 8,210 tons of steel beams. They are on schedule with the 11-story, 700,000-square-foot building, despite a year of record-setting rain.

The School of Medicine and Barnes-Jewish Hospital plan to open the BJC Institute of Health, located at the corner of Euclid Avenue and Children's Place, in December 2009. The \$235 million building will be the hub for BioMed 21, the University's initiative to speed scientific discovery and to rapidly apply breakthroughs to patient care. It also will house Barnes-Jewish Hospital support operations, potentially dietary services, clinical laboratories and pharmacies.

Steel "topping out" is a key milestone. The building is only one year from opening and benefiting future patients through the discoveries that will be cultivated in five Interdisciplinary Research Centers.

"We are building the foundation that will aid us in accelerating the promise of BioMed 21," said Larry Shapiro, M.D., executive vice chancellor for medical affairs and dean of the School of Medicine. "The potential for new treatments and cures that can result from



The \$235 million BJC Institute of Health at Washington University will be the hub for BioMed 21, the University's initiative to speed scientific discovery and to rapidly apply breakthroughs to patient care.

the enhanced scientific collaboration is extraordinary."

BJC HealthCare has supported construction of the Institute with a \$30 million gift over five years.

"The framework to support lifesaving research is complete," said Steven Lipstein, BJC president and CEO. "The BJC

Institute of Health represents hope and opportunity for countless patients for generations to come."

Interior work on the BJC Institute of Health should start by March. A spacious, two-story lobby with a glass entryway will lead into the building. A staircase with built-in seating space will connect the lobby with upper

walkways.

Floors 1 through 5 will be left as flexible shell space for Barnes-Jewish Hospital to develop in the future. Floors 7 through 10 will provide space for the Departments of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Pathology and Immunology as well as five Interdisciplinary Research Centers. The centers will be focused on cancer genomics, diabetic cardiovascular disease, neurodegeneration, women's infectious disease research and membrane excitability disorders.

The building's layout will facilitate teamwork and interaction. Shared conference rooms and breakout areas will encourage brainstorming and dialogue. The labs are designed to be open, with no walls in between. They also will have flexibility built in, including case-work and equipment that can be moved easily to accommodate technology and change.

The BJC Institute of Health is striving for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification, awarded to buildings that demonstrate environmental responsibility. A scenic plaza will front the building, continuing efforts to make Euclid a relaxing area for the Medical Center and the general community.

## Inder receives award from Doris Duke Foundation

BY BETH MILLER

**T**errie E. Inder, M.D., Ph.D., has received a 2008 Distinguished Clinical Scientist Award from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

The \$1.5 million award recognizes outstanding leadership in clinical research and allows leading physician-scientists to meld biomedical research and clinical applications that improve human health. Inder, a pediatrician and researcher at the School of Medicine and St. Louis Children's Hospital, was one of six award recipients.

"Terrie Inder is an outstanding clinical investigator who bridges the gaps between basic neurobiology, translational medicine and health outcomes for our smallest and most vulnerable patients," said Alan

L. Schwartz, Ph.D., M.D., the Harriet B. Spoeherer Professor and head of pediatrics.



Inder

Inder, associate professor of pediatrics, of neurology and of radiology, uses imaging studies on brains of premature, at-risk infants to help

predict developmental outcomes, in particular the risk of severe cognitive delays, psychomotor delays, cerebral palsy or hearing or visual impairments.

Using sophisticated analysis of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans, Inder can determine abnormalities in the brains of preterm infants born at 30 weeks gestation or less and assist in guiding families as to the risk for future disability. The outcomes of the MRI scans also can inform the physicians about the impact of treatment in the neonatal intensive care unit on brain development.

Inder also co-directs a large multidisciplinary team that provides clinical care, teaching and research to improve the outcomes for infants born at risk for disability. The team combines multidisciplinary research initiatives in pediatrics, neurology, radiology, obstetrics and psychology based on studies at the bedside of newborn infants in the neonatal and pediatric intensive care units at St. Louis Children's Hospital. All infants are followed into childhood to monitor their progress.

Inder earned a medical degree and doctorate from the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand. She completed a residency in pediatrics at Dunedin Hospital, a newborn medicine fellowship at Christchurch Hospital/Otago Medical School and a residency in child neurology at Boston Children's Hospital/Harvard Medical School. She joined the faculty at the School of Medicine in 2005.

## Free blood glucose screenings offered Jan. 23

BY BETH MILLER

**N**early 24 million children and adults in the United States, or nearly 8 percent of the population, have diabetes. While about 18 million have been diagnosed with diabetes, the rest may be unaware that they have the disease.

The School of Medicine is sponsoring free blood sugar screenings and information on diabetes Jan. 23 from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. The Health Happening event, held in the McDonnell Pediatric Research Building atrium, is free to all School of Medicine employees. The health fair's focus on diabetes includes free blood glucose screenings by senior nursing students and medical assistants from the Goldfarb College of Nursing at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. No fasting is necessary prior to the screening.

In addition, Washington University physicians and diabetes educators from the Washington University Diabetes Center will be available to answer questions about

the disease.

"We chose diabetes as the focus for this event because we wanted to address issues we know people struggle with and yet can manage with the right information and resources," said Legail Chandler, director of human resources at the School of Medicine and a member of the Wellness Council. "It is a serious problem that can be detected with a simple test."

There are several types of diabetes. Type 1 diabetes results from the body's failure to produce insulin. Up to 10 percent of Americans who are diagnosed with diabetes have type 1 diabetes.

Type 2 diabetes results from insulin resistance, a condition in which the body fails to properly use insulin. Most Americans who are diagnosed with diabetes have type 2 diabetes.

Pre-diabetes occurs when a person's blood glucose levels are higher than normal but not high enough for a diagnosis of type 2 diabetes. There are 57 million

Americans who have pre-diabetes.

The fair also will have information available on smoking and its effect on diabetes as well as on smoking cessation programs.

"Smoking greatly increases the risk of heart attacks for people with any type of diabetes," said Walton Sumner II, M.D., associate professor of medicine and a member of the Wellness Council. "Fortunately, it is possible to avoid that extra risk by quitting smoking, and there are now many aids to help people quit smoking."

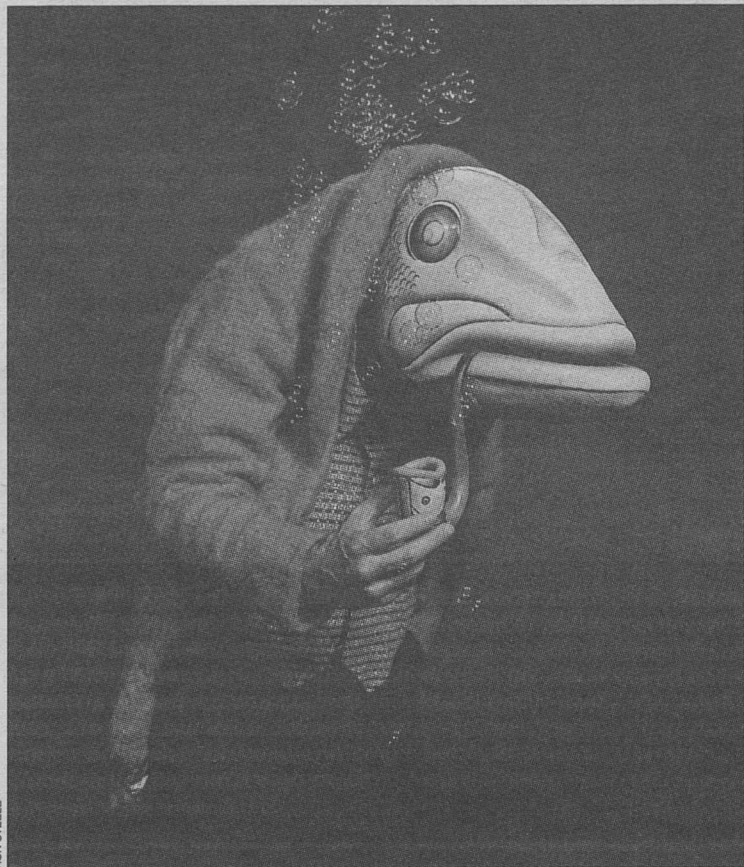
Visitors to the event will be able to try out the new Your Health Snapshot Web site at six computer stations. Your Health Snapshot is an easy-to-use tool that offers personalized assessments of a person's risk for diabetes, cancer, heart disease, stroke and osteoporosis. (See story on p. 1.)

Participants who turn in their health results form will also be entered into a drawing for one of three \$300 MasterCard money cards.



# University Events

## Imaginative show launches 'ovations for young people'



Michael Cooper as a pipe-smoking fish, one of the colorful characters that make "Masked Marvels" lively and distinct.

A high-kicking giant. A clumsy cowpoke. A grumpy, pipe-smoking trout fishing beside an imaginary stream.

Welcome to "Masked Marvels & Wondertales," the eye-popping one-man variety show by Michael Cooper, the virtuoso storyteller, mask-maker and mime.

The special one-day-only show — which launches Edison Theatre's spring ovations for young people series — takes place at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 17, in the 560 Music Center. The performance is a change from the originally scheduled event Jan. 24.

Combining the mythical and the autobiographical, Cooper employs astonishingly detailed masks as well as impressive physical dexterity to tell original stories that highlight the presence of the miraculous in everyday occurrences.

Vignettes include "The Baby," inspired by the birth of Cooper's first child; "The Horse," which pays homage to his father, a veterinarian who courted Cooper's mother on horseback; and "Fish-or-Man," in which he asks the audience "How do you think a fish would feel ... if he were the one

winding the reel?"

But the stars of the show are Cooper's exquisite masks, each of which can take up to 300 hours to make. Working primarily with scavenged materials, Cooper begins by ripping paper bags or old cloth into small pieces that are then dipped into glue and laminated over a carefully crafted clay sculpture.

Once the layers dry, the clay is dug out and removed, leaving just the hollowed-out mask ready for final flourishes, which often includes some clever engineering. The fish mask, for example, can blow bubbles from its mouth, while Cooper's wind creature features spinning limbs mounted on an old bicycle wheel.

Born and raised in rural Maine — where he still resides — Cooper earned a bachelor's degree in peace studies from Goddard College in Plainfield, Vt., where he also developed an interest in performance. He spent six years training with two of the greatest mime teachers of the 20th century: Etienne Decroux of Paris, France, and Tony Montanaro of Paris, Maine.

Today, Cooper spends roughly

half of each year on the road performing "Masked Marvels & Wondertales," a show he has continually developed for close to three decades, in more than 8,000 performances. Credits range from the Brooklyn Academy of Music and the Hong Kong International Children's Festival to The Comedy Store in Los Angeles, the Dublin Theater Festival and the Great Woods Center near Boston.

The ovations for young people series presents specially priced Saturday matinee shows for audiences of all ages. Following "Masked Marvels & Wondertales," the series will continue Feb. 28 with the Ahn Trio, three Julliard trained sisters who breathe new life into the standard piano-trio repertoire. The series will conclude March 28 with Diavolo, the high-flying Los Angeles dance company.

Tickets to "Masked Marvels & Wondertales" are \$10. Subscriptions to all three ovations for young people events are available at \$6 each.

Tickets are available at the Edison Theatre Box Office and through all MetroTix outlets.

## 'Poet of witness' Forché to speak for Writing Program Reading Series

Poet Carolyn Forché, the visiting Fannie Hurst Professor of Creative Literature in the Writing Program in Arts & Sciences, will read from her work at 8 p.m. Jan. 22.

The talk — part of The Writing Program Reading Series — is free and open to the public and takes place in Duncker Hall, Room 201, Hurst Lounge.

A reception and book signing will immediately follow.

Known as a "poet of witness," Forché is the author of four books of poetry. Her first collection, "Gathering The Tribes" (1976), won the Yale Series of Younger



Forché

Between Us" (1982), received the Poetry Society of America's Alice Fay di

Poets Award.

The following year, she traveled to Spain to translate the work of Salvadoran-exile Claribel Alegria and later spent time in El Salvador working as a human rights advocate.

Forché's second book, "The Country Between Us" (1982), received the Poetry Society of America's Alice Fay di

Castagnola Award and also was the Lamont Selection of the Academy of American Poets.

Her third book of poetry, "The Angel of History" (1994), won The Los Angeles Times Book Award. Her fourth collection, "Blue Hour" (2003), takes its title from the French phrase for predawn light.

Forché's translation of Alegria's "Flowers from the Volcano" was released in 1983. Other translations include Mahmoud Darwish's "Unfortunately," "It Was Paradise: Selected Poems" (with Munir Akash, 2003) and Robert Desnos' "Selected Poetry" (with

William Kulik, 1991).

She also edited the anthology "Against Forgetting: Twentieth-Century Poetry of Witness" (1993).

Other honors and awards include fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Lannan Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. In 1992, she received the Charity Randall Citation from the International Poetry Forum.

For more information, call 935-7130 or e-mail David Schuman at dschuman@wustl.edu.

## On the Road to Freedom • Very Hungry Parasite • Shearing Melt

"University Events" lists a portion of the activities taking place Jan. 15-28 at Washington University. Visit the Web for expanded calendars for the Danforth Campus ([news-info.wustl.edu/calendars](http://news-info.wustl.edu/calendars)) and the School of Medicine ([medschool.wustl.edu/calendars.html](http://medschool.wustl.edu/calendars.html)).

Issue: Political Discourse and Race Relations in the Barack Obama Era." William Julius Wilson, prof., Harvard U. Eric P. Newman Education Center. 362-6854.

### Tuesday, Jan. 20

4:30 p.m. Freedom From Smoking Class. "On the Road to Freedom." Center for Advanced Medicine, Barnard Health and Cancer Info. Center. To register: 362-7844.

### Thursday, Jan. 22

Noon. School of Law Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Speaker. "The Civil Rights Dimensions of Prisoner Reentry: The Impact on Individuals, Families, and Communities." Michael Pinard, attorney and civil rights advocate. Bryan Cave Moot Courtroom, Anheuser-Busch Hall. 935-7567.

3:30 p.m. Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute Seminar. "The Visible and Invisible World of International Claims Tribunals." Seigle Hall, Rm. 109. 935-7888.

4 p.m. Vision Science Seminar Series. "Tuning Retinal Function With Inhibition and Transporter Activity." Peter Lukasiewicz, prof. of ophthalmology and visual sciences. Maternity Bldg., Rm. 725. 362-3315.

4:15 p.m. Earth & Planetary Sciences Colloquium. Stephen Zatzman Memorial Colloquium. "Shearing Melt of the Earth: An Experimentalist's Perspective on the Influence of Deformation on Melt Extraction from the Mantle" David Kohlstedt, prof. of geology and geophysics, U. of Minn. Earth & Planetary Sciences Bldg., Rm. 203. 935-5610.

8 p.m. The Writing Program Reading Series. Carolyn Forché, visiting prof. Duncker Hall, Rm. 201, Hurst Lounge. 935-7130.

### Friday, Jan. 23

9:15 a.m. Pediatric Grand Rounds. "The

### How to submit 'University Events'

Submit "University Events" items to Angela Hall of the Record staff via:

e-mail — [recordcalendar@wustl.edu](mailto:recordcalendar@wustl.edu)

campus mail — Campus Box 1070 fax — 935-4259

Upon request, forms for submitting events will be e-mailed, mailed or faxed to departments to be filled out and returned.

Deadline for submissions is noon the Thursday prior to publication date.

Very Hungry Parasite: Progress Against Malaria in the 21st Century." Audrey Odum, instructor of pediatrics. Clopton Aud., 4950 Children's Place. 454-6006.

11 a.m. Computer Science and Engineering Colloquium. "Dynamic Ideal Point Estimation and Ideological Change on the U.S. Supreme Court." Andrew Martin, prof. of law. Cupples II Hall, Rm. 217. 935-6160.

11 a.m. Energy, Environmental and Chemical Engineering Seminar Series. "Perchlorate-Reducing Gene Targets for Biological Treatment Applications." Mary Jo Kirisits, asst. prof. of civil, architectural and environmental engineering, U. of Texas at Austin. Lopata Hall, Rm. 101. 935-5548.

Noon. Cell Biology and Physiology Seminar. "Intracellular FGFs Novel Regulators of Membrane Excitability." Jeanne M. Nerbonne, prof. of developmental biology.

McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 426. 362-6950.

### Sunday, Jan. 25

3 p.m. Art History and Archaeology Lecture. George E. Mylonas Memorial Lecture. "The Uses of the Past on Periclean Acropolis." Jeffrey M. Hurwit, U. of Ore. Brown Hall Aud. 423-3900.

### Monday, Jan. 26

Noon. Work, Families and Public Policy Brown Bag Seminar Series. "Institutions, Social Norms and Bargaining Power: An Analysis of Individual Leisure Time in Couple Households." Leslie Stratton, assoc. prof. of economics, Va. Commonwealth U. Seigle Hall, Rm. 348. 935-4918.

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series. "Epithelia Morphogenesis in Development and Disease." Greg Longmore, prof. of medicine, Farrell Learning and Teaching Center, Connor Aud. 362-2763.

5:30 p.m. Cardiac Bioelectricity and Arrhythmia Center Seminar. "The Electrophysiological Substrate of Heart Failure and Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy." Niraj Varma, cardiovascular medicine, Cleveland Clinic. Whitaker Hall, Rm. 218. 935-7887.

### Tuesday, Jan. 27

4:30 p.m. Freedom From Smoking Class. "Wanting to Quit." Center for Advanced Medicine, Barnard Health and Cancer Info. Center. To register: 362-7844.

## And More

### Monday, Jan. 19

7 p.m. University's Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration. "Shattering Ceilings: Celebrating Success in Pursuit of 'The

Dream.'" Graham Chapel. Reception follows at Danforth University Center. 935-5965.

## On Stage

### Friday, Jan. 16

7:30 p.m. OVATIONS! Series. "To Kill a Mockingbird." (Also 7:30 p.m. Jan. 17; 2 p.m. Jan. 17 and 18.) Cost: \$32, \$28 for seniors, faculty and staff, \$20 for students and children. Edison Theatre. 935-6543.

### Saturday, Jan. 24

11 a.m. ovations for young people series. "Masked Marvels & Wondertales." Cost: \$10. 560 Music Center. 935-6543.

## Sports

### Friday, Jan. 16

6 p.m. Swimming and diving. WU Invitational. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

6 p.m. Women's Basketball vs. Case Western Reserve U. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

8 p.m. Men's Basketball vs. Case Western Reserve U. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

### Saturday, Jan. 17

11 a.m. Swimming and diving. WU Invitational. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

### Sunday, Jan. 18

Noon. Men's Basketball vs. Emory U. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

2 p.m. Women's Basketball vs. Emory U. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

## Lectures

### Thursday, Jan. 15

4 p.m. Vision Science Seminar Series. "The Neurobiology of Social Scents: Of Mice, Molecules and Microscopes." Timothy Holy, asst. prof. of neurobiology. Maternity Bldg., Rm. 725. 362-3315.

### Friday, Jan. 16

9:15 a.m. Pediatric Grand Rounds. "You Say 'Disaster,' I Say 'Mass Casualty' but We Can't Call the Whole Thing Off." Dee Hodge, assoc. prof. of pediatrics, U. of Calif., Berkeley. Clopton Aud., 4950 Children's Place. 454-6006.

11 a.m. Energy, Environmental and Chemical Engineering Seminar Series. "Improving Butanol Fermentations Through Metabolic and Bioprocess Engineering Perspectives." David Nielsen, postdoctoral fellow in chemical engineering, MIT. Lopata Hall, Rm. 101. 935-5548.

### Saturday, Jan. 17

8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. George Warren Brown School of Social Work Martin Luther King Jr. Remembrance. "Financial Freedom Seminar: Achieving Economic Independence Through Education." Brown Hall, Rm. 100. To register: 935-7262.

### Monday, Jan. 19

4 p.m. School of Medicine Martin Luther King Celebration Lecture. "Framing the



## Law's 'Access to Justice' speaker series kicks off

By JESSICA MARTIN

**P**rominent criminal defense attorney and civil rights advocate Michael Pinard, J.D., will address the pressing problem of prisoner re-entry in America to kick off the spring lineup of Washington University School of Law's 11th annual Public Interest Law & Policy Speakers Series Jan. 22.

Pinard is the law school's 2009 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Speaker.

The spring series includes civil rights experts, an award-winning journalist, a top intellectual property law scholar and a leading advocate for children. The law school's Clinical Education Program sponsors the series.

Titled "Access to Justice: The Social Responsibility of Lawyers," the yearlong series brings to WUSTL prominent experts in such areas as racial justice, civil rights, international human rights, the economics of poverty, clinical legal education, public service and pro bono legal practice.

Karen L. Tokarz, J.D., the Charles Nagel Professor of Public Interest Law & Public Service and director of the Dispute Resolution Program, coordinates the series in conjunction with Pauline Kim, J.D., associate dean for research and faculty development and professor of law.

All lectures will be held at noon in the Bryan Cave Moot Courtroom of Anheuser-Busch Hall unless otherwise noted. They are free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Jeanne Heil-Chapdelaine at 935-7567.

The schedule:

• **Jan. 22.** Pinard, professor of law at the University of Maryland, will present "The Civil Rights Dimensions of Prisoner Reentry: the Impact on Individuals, Families, and Communities." His talk is co-sponsored by the Black Law Students Association.

Pinard is the director of the Reentry of Ex-Offender's Clinic at the University of Maryland Law School, former staff attorney for the Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem and former attorney for the Office of the Appellate Defender of New York City. His scholarship and practice interests focus on the American criminal justice system, criminal defense lawyering, the reentry of individuals with criminal records and the collateral consequences of criminal convictions.

• **Feb. 2.** Julia Preston, journalist with The New York Times, will discuss "Immigration: Enough Enforcement? The Crackdown and the Policy Options for the New Administration." This lecture is co-sponsored by the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies.

Preston is a recognized expert

on immigration and international affairs and has earned a number of journalism awards for her work. She was a part of the team that won the New York Times 1998 Pulitzer Prize for reporting on international affairs for its series profiling the corrosive effects of drug corruption in Mexico.

• **Feb. 23.** Goodwin Liu, J.D., associate dean and professor of law at the University of California, Berkeley, will present "The Future of Civil Rights: Reflections and Renewal." His talk is co-sponsored by the American Constitution Society.

Co-director of the Chief Justice Earl Warren Institute on Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity at Berkeley, Liu is a frequent commentator on constitutional law and education policy for top media outlets. Liu is a former law clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, former special assistant to the deputy secretary of education and former senior program officer for AmeriCorps.

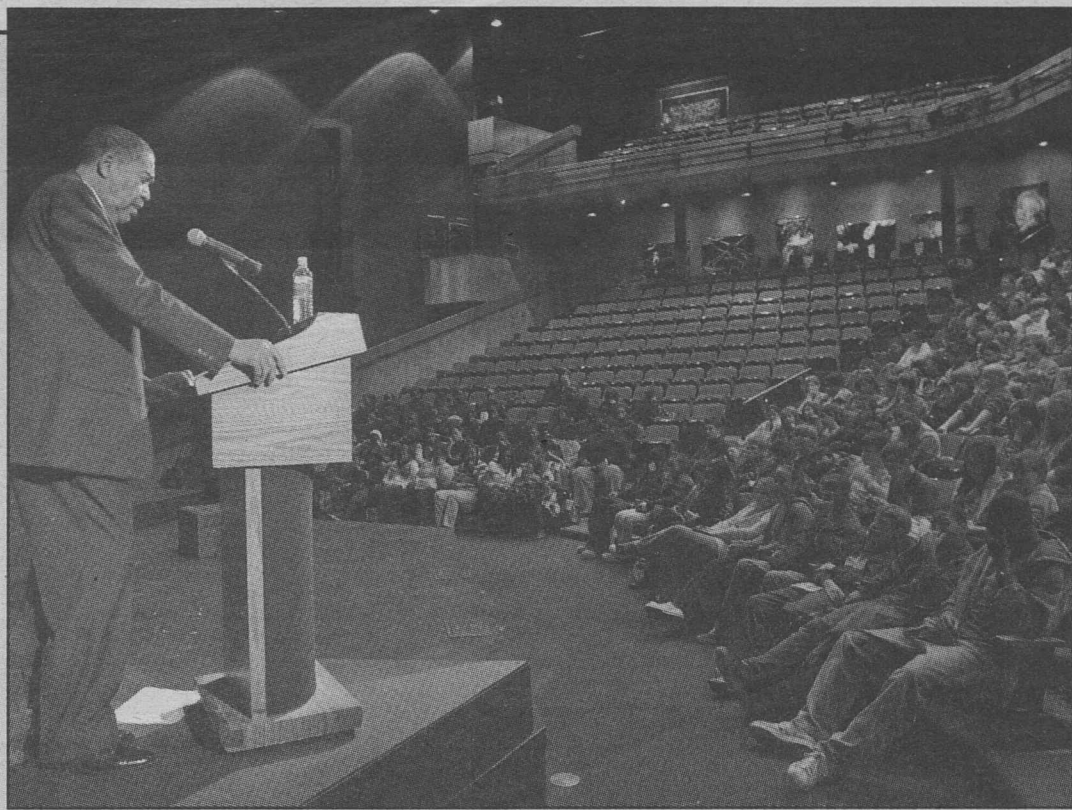
• **March 26.** Pam Samuelson, J.D., the Richard M. Sherman Distinguished Professor of Law, Professor of Information Management and Chancellor's Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, will discuss "The Public Interest in Intellectual Property Law." This lecture is co-sponsored by the Center for Research on Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

An internationally recognized intellectual property law scholar, Samuelson is the co-director of the Berkeley Center for Law and Technology and the founder and adviser for the Samuelson Law, Technology and Public Policy Clinic. She has written and commented extensively about the challenges that new information technologies pose for public policy and traditional legal regimes.

• **March 27, 9 a.m.** Jane M. Spinak, J.D., the Edward Ross Aranow Clinical Professor of Law at Columbia University, will present "Reforming Family Court: Getting It Right Between Rhetoric and Reality." This talk is sponsored by the Clinical Education Program in conjunction with the annual Access to Equal Justice Colloquium on Family Court Reform.

Spinak co-founded Columbia's Child Advocacy Clinic, which represents children living in foster care in family-court proceedings. She directs the newly created Multi-Disciplinary Center of Excellence in Child Advocacy at the law school in collaboration with a national child advocacy organization, First Star.

Spinak is a member of the New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children.



**Civil rights in St. Louis** William "Bill" Clay Sr., Missouri's first black congressman, discusses his new book, "The Jefferson Bank Confrontation: The Struggle for Civil Rights in St. Louis," with area high-school students in Edison Theatre Jan. 9. The book recounts St. Louis' most successful civil rights movement, which began in August 1963 and for which Clay spent 105 days in jail but which ultimately opened employment opportunities in banking and other industries. The talk was sponsored as part of a National Endowment for the Arts' Big Read program centering on Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird," perhaps the most widely read book exploring race in the United States. For a complete calendar of events related to the Big Read or to obtain a reader's guide, visit [bigread.wustl.edu](http://bigread.wustl.edu) or call 935-4407.

## Sports

### Men's basketball improves to 11-1

The men's basketball team held the University of Chicago without a field goal for a stretch of 12:31 in the second half en route to a 74-62 victory over the Maroons in both team's University Athletic Association (UAA) opener Jan. 10 in Chicago.

The Bears shot 57.4 percent from the field in the victory and outrebounded the Maroons, 31-26. WUSTL, which leads the NCAA Division III in assist-to-turnover ratio (1.6), had 22 assists in the victory.

Junior Cameron Smith and freshman Dylan Richter had 13 points, while junior Aaron Thompson added 11 points on 3-of-3 shooting from beyond the arc. Senior Sean Wallis added nine points, four rebounds and a game-high 11 assists in the victory.

The Bears, ranked No. 3 overall, suffered their first loss of the season Dec. 20 to Elmhurst College, 82-75, in the championship game of the Bluejay Classic in Elmhurst, Ill. It was the final game before a 15-day layoff for the holiday break.

They bounced back Jan. 5 with a 68-55 win at Webster University. In that game, WUSTL shot 50.9 percent from the field while holding Webster to just 41.4 percent shooting. The Bears sank eight

three-pointers in the win and held a 35-30 advantage on the boards. The victory over Webster was the Bears' 73rd in a row when holding an opponent under 60 points.

WUSTL (11-1, 1-0 UAA) continues conference action at home at 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 16, against Case Western Reserve University in the WU Field House.

### Women's basketball win streak at five

The No. 25 women's basketball team pushed its winning streak to five consecutive games with a dramatic 54-50 win at No. 21 University of Chicago in both team's University Athletic Association (UAA) opener in Chicago Jan. 10.

Sophomore Kelsey Robb sunk a pair of free throws to break a 50-50 tie with 9.9 seconds remaining to lead WUSTL to the win. Robb led all scorers with a career-high 14 points and also pulled down seven rebounds.

The Bears' stifling defense was pivotal in picking up the conference win, as it did not yield a field goal over the final 4:29 of the game and held Chicago to just 33.3 percent shooting.

The victory was the 525th of head coach Nancy Fahey's career and the first for WUSTL at Chicago since Feb. 25, 2006.

On Jan. 5, the Bears defeated Webster University, 78-46, with senior Halsey Ward leading the way with 12 points on 4-of-7 shooting from three-point range.

WUSTL (9-3, 1-0 UAA) resumes play at home at 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 16, against Case Western Reserve University in the WU Field House.

### Swimming and diving sweep Lindenwood

The men's and women's swim teams returned from the semester break to pick up wins over Lindenwood University at Millstone Pool Jan. 9.

The men defeated Lindenwood, 137-81, while the women's squad picked up a 130-88 victory over the visiting Lions.

The meet was the first competition for the Bears since both teams placed second at the Wheaton Invitational Dec. 6.

Against Lindenwood, the WUSTL women took first in eight events, and the men's team claimed the top spot in seven events.

Freshman Karina Stridh posted an NCAA provisional time of 53.10 in winning the 100-yard freestyle, the only Bear to eclipse an NCAA standard at the meet.

## 'Work, Families and Public Policy' brown bag lunch series continues

By JESSICA MARTIN

**F**aculty and graduate students from St. Louis-area universities with an interest in labor, households, health care, law and social welfare are being invited to take part in a series of Monday brown bag luncheon seminars to be held on campus biweekly through April 27.

In its 13th year, the "Work, Families and Public Policy" series features one-hour presentations on research interests of faculty from local and national universities. The series is designed to promote interdisciplinary research.

Presentations will be from noon-1 p.m. in Seigle Hall, Room 348, and will be followed by a half-hour discussion.

The series began Jan. 12 with a lecture by Daniel Hamermesh, Ph.D., the Edward Everett Hale Centennial Professor in Economics at the University of Texas, on "Grazing and Making Fat: Determinants and Effects."

The remaining presentations:

• **Jan. 26.** Leslie Stratton, Ph.D., associate professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, will speak on "Institutions, Social Norms and Bargaining Power: An Analysis of Individual Leisure Time in Couple Households."

• **Feb. 9.** David Neumark, Ph.D., professor of economics at the University of California, Irvine, will discuss "Neighbors and Co-Workers: The Importance of Residential Labor Market Networks."

• **Feb. 23.** Anne Winkler, Ph.D., professor of economics and public policy administration at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, will examine "The Diffusion of I.T. in Higher Education: Publishing Productivity of Academic Life Scientists."

• **March 16.** Pamela Jakiela, Ph.D., assistant professor of economics in Arts & Sciences, will speak about "Education and Social Norms: Experimental Evidence."

• **March 30.** Martha Ertman, J.D., professor of law at the University of Maryland, will present "They Ain't Whites, They're Mormons: An Illustrated History of Polygamy as Race Treason."

• **April 13.** Raul Santaaulalia-Llopis, Ph.D., assistant professor of economics in Arts & Sciences, will examine "AIDS and Economic Development: The Role of Reproductive Health and Family Planning Policies."

• **April 27.** Michael Hurd, Ph.D., director of the Center for the Study of Aging and senior economist at RAND

Corp., will discuss "Economic Preparation for Retirement: Then and Now."

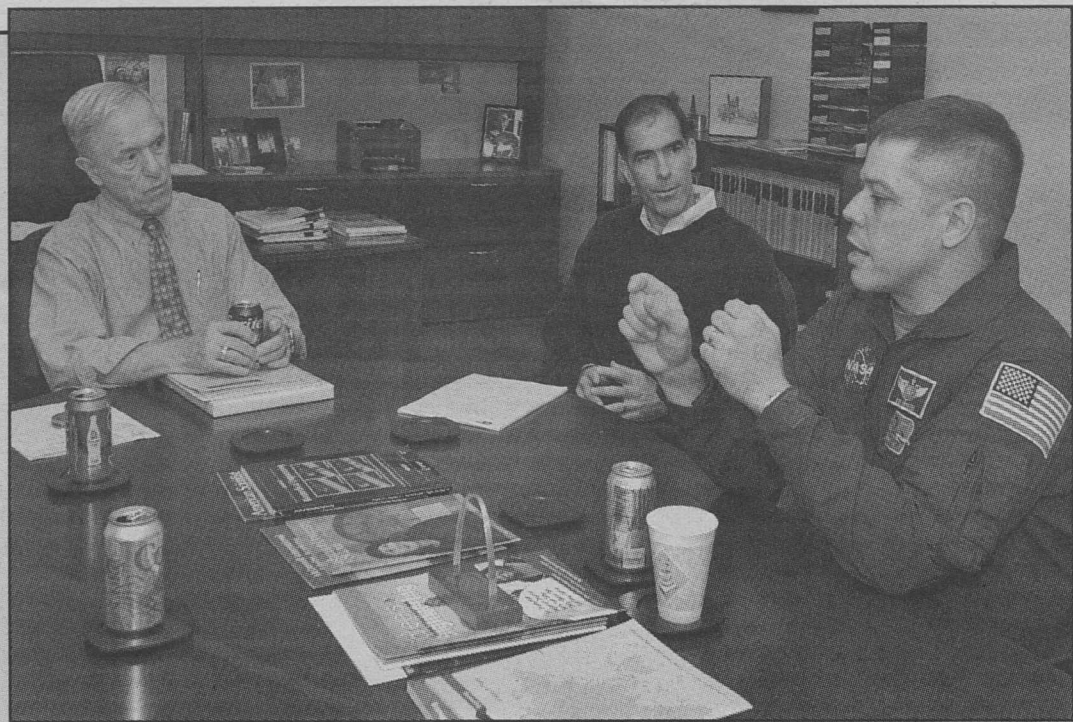
Robert A. Pollak, Ph.D., the Robert E. Hernreich Distinguished Professor of Economics in Arts & Sciences and at the Olin Business School, has been the lead organizer of the series for the past 12 years. Co-organizer is Michael W. Sherraden, Ph.D., the Benjamin E. Youngdahl Professor of Social Development and director of the Center for Social Development in the George Warren Brown School of Social Work.

The series is sponsored by the Olin Business School; the George Warren Brown School of Social Work and the Center for Social Development; the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in the School of Law; the Department of Economics in Arts & Sciences; the Center for Health Policy; and the College of Arts & Sciences.

The classroom is courtesy of the Department of Economics.

For more information, contact Pollak at 935-4918 or at [pollak@wustl.edu](mailto:pollak@wustl.edu); Sherraden at 935-6691 or at [sherrad@wustl.edu](mailto:sherrad@wustl.edu) or visit [olin.wustl.edu/links](http://olin.wustl.edu/links) and click on the "Academic Seminars" drop-down menu.





**A long journey home** NASA astronaut and WUSTL alum Robert Behnken, Ph.D. (right), visits with his former professor, Salvatore P. Sutera, Ph.D. (left), interim dean of the School of Engineering & Applied Science and senior professor of biomedical engineering, and Philip V. Bayly, Ph.D., the Lilyan and E. Lisle Hughes Professor in Engineering and chair of the Department of Mechanical, Aerospace and Structural Engineering. Behnken took the first space flight of his career in March 2008 aboard the space shuttle Endeavor, which launched the International Space Station. He returned home to St. Louis to be grand marshal for the Thanksgiving Day Parade and made a point to stop by the Danforth Campus, getting a student-guided tour before settling in with Sutera and Bayly.

## Financial seminar at Brown School will spotlight challenging economy

By JESSICA MARTIN

To honor the life and work of Martin Luther King Jr., the Society of Black Student Social Workers (SBSSW) at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work will host the third annual "Financial Freedom Seminar: Achieving Economic Independence Through Education," from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17, in Brown Hall, Room 100.

The seminar, free and open to the public, is designed for St. Louis community youth and adults interested in building wealth, repairing and maintaining good credit, purchasing a home or starting and expanding a business.

"Financial planning is key during today's economy," said Jessica Bassett, first-year graduate student in social work and SBSSW member. "With tough economic times such as these, it is vital for every individual, not just African-Americans, to plan and prepare for the future by getting the hard

and fast facts about borrowing, asset building and financial planning.

"That holds true for anyone, whether you're retired, contemplating starting a family or going off to college," Bassett said.

Tesheba Wadley, second-year graduate student in social work and SBSSW co-chair, said that the Financial Freedom Seminar is an important event to the Brown School as well as the St. Louis community.

"Through the seminar, the Brown School has an opportunity to reach out to African-Americans and other community members to let them know their needs are known and we want to work with them to address those needs," Wadley said. "In turn, St. Louisans have the chance to explore the campus and interact with the University community in a meaningful way."

Seminar participants will be able to choose two workshops from the following areas: Credit Education and Debt Freedom;

Home Ownership; Smart Borrowing; Investing Your Money; and Asset Building. In addition, two youth workshops are being offered in Financial Planning and College Planning.

The seminar will begin with a keynote address by Eric Dickerson, founder and president of Eric Dickerson Associates. Dickerson's company works with organizations and academic institutions to provide personal finance management training. The training program is education-based and is not affiliated with or supported by any investment or financial organizations.

Last year's Financial Freedom Seminar was attended by nearly 200 members of the St. Louis community.

For more information and to register, visit [gwbweb.wustl.edu/Events/Pages/FinancialFreedomSeminar.aspx](http://gwbweb.wustl.edu/Events/Pages/FinancialFreedomSeminar.aspx), e-mail [specialevents@gwbmail.wustl.edu](mailto:specialevents@gwbmail.wustl.edu) or call 935-3466.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

mors in about 30 percent of the participants. But the high-dose regimen had significant side effects such as nausea, vomiting, vaginal bleeding, fluid retention or calcium imbalances. In contrast, the low-dose regimen had few side effects and was well tolerated.

The researchers found that if study participants eventually experienced disease progression on estrogen, they could go back to an aromatase inhibitor that they were previously resistant to and see a benefit — their tumors were once again inhibited by estrogen deprivation.

That effect sometimes wore off after several months, but then the tumors might again be sensitive to estrogen therapy. In fact, some patients have cycled back and forth between estrogen and an aromatase inhibitor for several years, thereby managing their metastatic disease.

The researchers also found that PET (positron emission tomography) scans could predict whose tumors would respond to estrogen therapy. They measured tumor glucose uptake before starting the women on estrogen and 24 hours later.

The patients whose tumors showed an increased glucose

uptake, called a PET flare, were the same patients who benefited from estrogen therapy.

It's too early to know why estrogen has a negative effect on metastatic breast cancer tumors. But Ellis has found one clue — estrogen reduces the amount of a tumor-promoting hormone called insulin-like growth factor-1 (IGF1).

"I think that in order for breast cancer cells to survive in the absence of estrogen (when patients are on aromatase inhibitors), the cells have to learn to alter their cellular programs to utilize alternative growth signals like IGF1," Ellis said.

"In theory, when you give estrogen back, IGF1 decreases, and cancer cells die as a consequence. But surviving cancer cells prefer to switch back to living on estrogen — to them it's like eating out at McDonald's every day instead of foraging on roots and berries. These cells eventually reappear as estrogen-dependent tumors and the cycle starts over," Ellis said.

Ellis plans to continue to follow metastatic breast cancer patients to quantify the response rate to retreatment with aromatase inhibitors when estrogen therapy stops working.

## WUSTL, area universities to host research summit

Washington University, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE), Saint Louis University (SLU) and the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL) will partner to host the Midwest Regional Outreach, Science and Scholarship Summit: Leadership in Interdisciplinary, Networking and Collaboration (LINC) Feb. 2-4.

Conference topics include updates on the latest funding trends from federal agencies and informative sessions for academic investigators on research practices and opportunities. Attendees also can explore ways to enhance the success of their individual and collaborative research projects.

The conference is the second of a biennial event intended to facilitate faculty research opportunities and stimulate broad-based increases in sponsored research, scholarship and interdisciplinary collaborations and partnerships.

The event was originally held in January 2007 as the Metropolitan St. Louis Grants Conference: Research Days.

"Collaborative and interdisciplinary research creates both opportunities for funding as well as management challenges," said Cindy Kiel, assistant vice chancellor for research services and executive director of the Research Office. "In recognition of the importance of fostering cross-cutting research and to provide tools to faculty to create more competitive proposals in an increasingly competitive environment, the College of Arts & Sciences, the College of Engineering and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research are co-sponsoring this biennial conference."

"In addition to timely trends and proposal development information from potential sponsors, this will be an exciting opportunity to network with colleagues from other disciplines and begin the important process of finding where the intersections of science, art and scholarship can create novel and innovative answers to the research questions of our time. Please bring your expertise and questions to make this a fulfilling and memorable event," Kiel said.

LINC will be structured around speakers, panelists and breakout sessions.

Day 1, jointly hosted by

SIUE and SLU Feb. 2, will focus on agency programs and will feature Sally Rockey, Ph.D., acting deputy director for extramural research at the National Institutes of Health.

WUSTL will host the second day of programming at the Danforth University Center Feb. 3. Funding trends, proposal development, merit review and project management will be addressed during Day 2. Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D., vice chancellor for research, will moderate the day's plenary session, titled "Successful Interdisciplinary Science."

Highlighted federal guests include Thomas N. Cooley, chief financial officer and director of the Office of Budget, Finance and Award Management at the National Science Foundation, and Linda Blevins, Ph.D., physical scientist at the Office of the Deputy Director for Science Programs at the Department of Energy.

"This is a very special opportunity to hear from our most important partners in the research arena and to get their views on present and future trends in this realm," Stanley said.

"It is not often that we can bring such high-ranking leaders at the federal level to the Midwest, and I encourage our faculty to take full advantage of this chance," Stanley said.

Day 3 will be hosted by both UMSL and SLU Feb. 4 and will feature discussions on technology transfer and the relationship between industry and academe.

The three days of programming have comprehensive objectives:

- One is supporting junior faculty members by offering exposure to large collaborative activities and interdisciplinary thinking and to problem-solving models outside their fields of expertise.

- Another is encouraging sponsored collaborations and scholarship by prompting dialogue with colleagues who have experienced successful interdisciplinary partnerships.

- The third is shaping research agenda through invitations to federal agency representatives and key faculty members to discuss the direction of future and current research.

Registration is free for faculty from St. Louis-area institutions.

For more information, visit [research.wustl.edu/LINC](http://research.wustl.edu/LINC).

## Estrogen

Accepted as treatment decades ago

— from Page 1

were postmenopausal with an average age of 59.

Coming into the study, all the participants were taking aromatase inhibitors to slow or stop the growth of their tumors. But their tumors had stopped responding to the treatment and had begun to grow again. Half of the patients got a high dose of estrogen (30 milligrams a day) and half got a low dose (6 milligrams a day).

Ellis points out that decades ago, high-dose synthetic estrogen was an accepted breast cancer therapy and was only abandoned when the estrogen-blocker tamoxifen came along in the 1970s and proved just as effective with fewer side effects.

The high dose in the current study was based on the amount given to breast cancer patients in many of those earlier regimens.

Both the high- and low-dose treatments led to stabilization or shrinkage of metastatic tu-

## Record

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## Notables

### Introducing new faculty members

The following are among the new faculty members at the University. Others will be introduced periodically in this space.

**Long Chen**, Ph.D., joins Olin Business School as associate professor of finance. He earned a bachelor's degree from Fudan University in his native China before earning a master's degree and doctorate from the University of New Brunswick and the University of Toronto, respectively. Before attending school in Canada, Chen worked for a Chinese importer and exporter of metals, and he spent a year as a trader at the Shen Zhen Metal Exchange and Yunnan Metal Exchange in China. He has taught at Michigan State University and researches the areas of asset pricing and corporate financing decisions.

**Frederick Eberhardt**, Ph.D., joins the Department of Philosophy in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor with an affiliation in the Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology Program. Eberhardt earned a doctorate from Carnegie Mellon University in 2007 and since has been a postdoctoral fellow in the Institute for Cognitive and Brain Sciences and the Department of Philosophy at the University of California, Berkeley. His research is on causal reasoning, and he has published a number of articles on problems in statistics, probability and the work of Hans Reichenbach. At Berkeley, his research involved experiments investigating how humans learn causal relations.

**Katherine Henzler-Wildman**, Ph.D., joins the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics as assistant professor. Henzler-Wildman earned a doctorate in chemistry at the University of Michigan in 2003. She was a Ruth L. Kirchstein NRSA postdoctoral fellow at Brandeis University. Her laboratory studies the conformational dynamics of proteins, using NMR to examine different motional modes during enzyme turnover. Henzler-Wildman is investigating the dynamics of the bacterial multidrug transporter EmrE in detergent micelles and artificial bilayers to identify motions that are linked to the mechanism of active transport.

**Scott Wildman**, Ph.D., joins the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics as research assistant professor. Wildman earned a doctorate in medicinal chemistry at the University of Michigan in 2001 and has spent the past seven years in the pharmaceutical industry. Wildman is working on computational approaches for drug discovery, modeling protein-ligand interactions and the structural implications of large protein families. Wildman will also be collaborating with the high-throughput screening and medicinal chemistry efforts focused on data analysis, hit prosecution and lead optimization.

## Six professors named AAAS fellows

By BETH MILLER

Six Washington University faculty members have been named fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the world's largest general scientific society.

The highest honor awarded by AAAS, the rank of fellow is bestowed upon members by their peers in recognition of scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications.

Of the WUSTL honorees, five are from the School of Medicine and one is from Arts & Sciences.

They are:

• **Charles F. Hildebolt**, Ph.D., professor of radiology, was elected to the Section on Anthropology for his contributions to the scientific study of dental and skeletal evolution in early hominids and for the training of health professionals and scholars.

• **Daniel S. Ory**, M.D., professor of medicine and of cell



Hildebolt



Ory



Pikaard



Schaffer



Weinstock



Wilson

biology and physiology, was elected to the Section on Medical Sciences for his contributions to understanding basic molecular mechanisms in regulation of cholesterol homeostasis with a special focus on the human Niemann-Pick type C (NPC) disease, an Alzheimer's disease-like disorder that affects children.

• **Craig S. Pikaard**, Ph.D., professor of biology in Arts & Sciences, was elected to the Section on Biological Sciences for his contributions to the understanding of plant gene silencing, chromatin modifying complexes and the role of two plant-specific RNA polymerases

in the biogenesis and functioning of producing siRNAs.

• **Jean E. Schaffer**, M.D., the Virginia Minnich Distinguished Professor of Medicine and professor of developmental biology, was elected to the Section on Medical Sciences for her contributions in increasing the understanding of fat metabolism and diabetes.

• **George M. Weinstock**, Ph.D., professor of genetics, was elected to the Section on Biological Sciences for his contributions to microbial and infectious-disease genomics, large-scale DNA sequencing and bioinformatics analyses and analyses of the genome and

evolution of man and metazoans.

• **Richard K. Wilson**, Ph.D., professor of genetics and of molecular microbiology, was elected to the Section on Biological Sciences for his contributions to the fields of molecular biology and genomics, particularly for the development of methods and approaches for large-scale genome analysis.

This year's fellows were announced in the Dec. 19 issue of the journal *Science*, published by AAAS.

The WUSTL fellows will be recognized next month at the organization's annual meeting in Chicago.

## Obituaries

### Wolff, longtime University benefactor, 93

Edith L. Wolff, a longtime donor to the School of Medicine, died Dec. 26, 2008, at Barnes-Jewish Hospital after a brief illness. She was 93.

Wolff and her late husband, Alan A. Wolff, directed funds to multiple areas of medical research at the School of Medicine for more than 30 years. Most recently, Edith Wolff committed \$20 million in late 2007 to establish the Alan A. and Edith L. Wolff Institute, which supports biomedical research projects that lead to the prevention, treatment and cure of disease. The institute will identify opportunities and gaps in biomedical research that no single discipline can address alone but that the scientific community as a

whole will explore in interdepartmental collaboration. Its goals reflect those of BioMed 21, the



Wolff

University's multidisciplinary research initiative to rapidly translate basic research findings into advances in medical treatment. In addition, Edith Wolff endowed two professorships. The Alan A. and Edith L. Wolff Professorship in Medicine was established in 1999 to support progress in understanding cancer and is held by

Timothy J. Ley, M.D.

In 2003, she endowed the Alan A. and Edith L. Wolff Distinguished Professorship in Medicine, which is held by William A. Peck, M.D., former executive vice chancellor and dean of the School of Medicine and now director of the Center for Health Policy. She also established the Edith L. Wolff Scholarship-Loan Fund, a non-interest-bearing fund for medical students.

Alan Wolff founded Wolff Construction Co., a real-estate development, investment and management company, in the late 1940s. During the '50s and '60s, the company built numerous shopping centers in Missouri, Illinois and Kansas.

Following Alan Wolff's death in 1989, Edith Wolff became president of the company, which flourished under her direction and now focuses on real-estate investment and on management and leasing of commercial buildings.

She also began a more active and public philanthropic career, and she sought to set an example of public giving in the hope that others might increase their charitable giving within their means.

She gave to numerous causes and charities, with the largest contributions being made to Washington University, Barnes-Jewish Hospital Foundation, St. Louis ARC and its Childgarden School, Life Skills Foundation, Miriam Foundation and Rainbow Village Foundation.

Edith Wolff's charitable contributions have been previously recognized by numerous awards from the organizations she benefited, including an honorary doctorate from the University in recognition of her extraordinary support of life-saving medical research.

Funeral services were held Dec. 30, 2008. Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of one's choice.

### Gaines, former commencement director, 86

Genevieve L. "Jean" Gaines, who served Washington University for more than 55 years in roles ranging from a secretary to administrative assistant to associate registrar and lastly as director of commencement, died Dec. 17, 2008. She was 86.



Gaines

Holly Compton and running through, in order, Ethan A.H. Shepley, Carl Tolman, Thomas Eliot, William H. Danforth and current Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. She is believed to hold the record for the longest continuous service at Washington University.

From 1946-1998, Gaines worked in the Office of the

Registrar, now called Student Records, where she was promoted from secretary to administrative assistant to associate registrar. In 1998, she joined public affairs as director of commencement.

"Jean Gaines was the ultimate Washington University employee," said James Burmeister, executive director of University relations and commencement and commencement chair from the late 1960s through the mid-1970s. "She always put the students first in a caring and concerned way."

A funeral mass was held Dec. 20 at The Church of the Little Flower in Richmond Heights, Mo.

Memorial contributions may be made in her memory to Washington University, Campus Box 1202, Attn: Brian Lewis, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, Mo., 63130, or the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Attn: Chief Financial Officer, 4445 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Mo., 63108.

### Miller, assistant prof. of genetics, 64

Raymond D. Miller, Ph.D., research assistant professor in genetics, died Dec. 13, 2008. He was 64.

Miller was employed at the medical school from 1982 until his retirement in April 2008. In 2005, he was a member of the International HapMap Consortium, which published a high-density haplotype map of the human genome, a sequel to the Human Genome Project and a significant step toward personalized medicine. His SNP Research Facility was one of six genotyping centers that participated in Phase I of the project.

"Ray was a very valued colleague in our department and a longtime member of the genetics community in many different aspects," said Susan Dutcher, Ph.D., interim chair of the Department of Genetics. "Our

seminar program will not be the same without him. He always asked important questions about genetics and about science in general. He will be greatly missed."

Services were held Dec. 18 at Christ Church Cathedral. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Taillon-Miller; daughter Sara Miller; and sister Margaret Bath. Memorial contributions may be made to Tower Grove Park Foundation or to the Christ Church Cathedral.

— Beth Miller

### Carmody, 87

Robert Carmody, adjunct senior lecturer in marketing from 1982-87, died Dec. 22, 2008. He was 87.



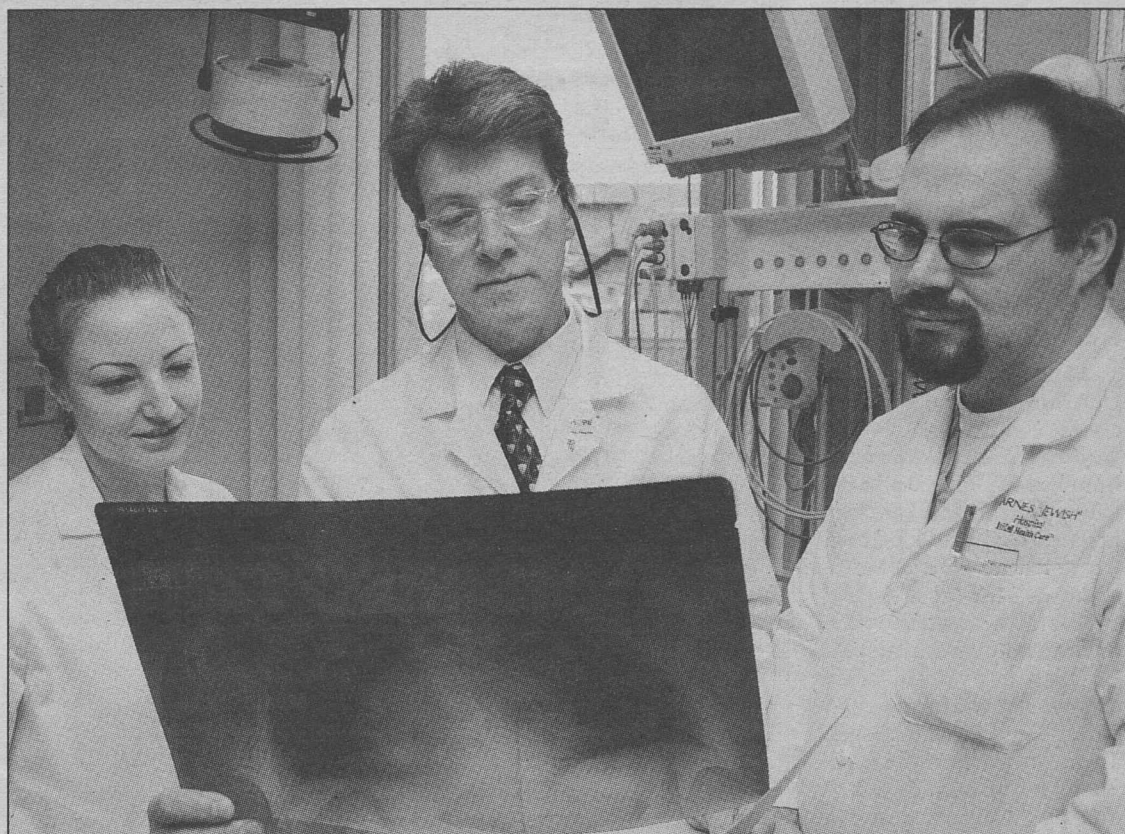
## Washington People

In France, J. Perren Cobb, M.D., would be called a "réanimateur" — a critical-care doctor who specializes in bringing patients back from the brink of death. Here in the States, however, he is an intensivist, a rather bland term that reveals little about the awe-inspiring nature of his work.

"Réanimateur better defines what we do," Cobb says. "In the intensive care unit, we are reanimating those who would otherwise be dead. I like the word because it stresses that what we're doing is positive and focused on healing — the glass is half-full as opposed to half-empty approach."

Cobb, professor of surgery and of anesthesiology, cares for patients in the surgical intensive care unit (SICU) on the eighth floor of Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Patients typically arrive on ventilators after major surgery, such as complicated operations to repair a ruptured blood vessel or close a gaping wound from a car crash or other traumatic incident.

The vast majority of patients recover fully. But a significant number, especially those with severe injuries caused by burns or major trauma, face long and difficult recoveries plagued by



J. Perren Cobb, M.D. (center), goes over a patient X-ray in the surgical intensive care unit with Jaime A. Cavallo, M.D. (left), a general surgery resident, and Robert Southard, M.D., a surgical intensive care unit fellow. "Dr. Cobb has a superb bedside manner and brings out the best in everyone involved in the care of patients he is overseeing," says Walter A. Boyle III, M.D., professor of anesthesiology. "Perren's ability to put staff at ease and listen to their views optimizes the chances for good outcomes for patients."

By CAROLINE ARBANAS

# Bringing patients back

Cobb heals the critically ill in the surgical ICU

potentially fatal complications. For these patients, an SICU stay is a touch-and-go struggle for life as Cobb and others deal with one medical crisis after another to stabilize their conditions.

"People with traumatic injuries that at one time would have been fatal can be put on ventilators and kept alive in states that never existed before," Cobb says. "But our ability to treat these patients still mostly amounts to a holding measure — the ventilator buys us time to try to resolve their underlying medical issues."

Sometimes, despite all heroic measures, critically ill patients' progress suddenly stalls and their organs begin to fail as doctors stand by helplessly.

"The technology exists to fix a hole in the blood vessel, to sew up the intestine or to cover burns with skin grafts," Cobb says. "But there's a tight window of time for patients in shock to get aggressive treatment. When patients cross that threshold, their organs start to fail, and there's absolutely nothing we can do but stand there and watch them die. That is what keeps me up at night and motivates me to find answers."

Physicians currently have no way to predict which critically ill or injured patients will fall into this downward spiral and do not have treatments to prevent it. Frustrated by this, Cobb stopped performing surgery several years ago to instead focus on finding

ways to improve patients' odds for survival.

### Looking to genes

Cobb's search for answers explaining why one critically ill patient dies while another with the same injury lives has led him to the roots of illness: genes. While genes are known to play a role in diseases such as cancer, diabetes and heart disease, research by Cobb and his colleagues shows that a constellation of genes goes awry as the body responds to traumatic injury.

In recent years, Cobb has been a leader in evaluating whether gene chips, which can rapidly track patterns of activity of thousands of genes, can help explain on a molecular level how patients respond to critical illness and injury.

This line of investigation may eventually help to identify molecular markers to pinpoint the earliest onset of organ failure or infection, for example, giving doctors an opportunity to intervene before underlying conditions get out of hand.

Cobb has teamed with scientists throughout the country to use gene chips to detect changes in gene expression triggered by trauma. And in his own lab, he is using the chips to detect pneumonia associated with ventilator use and to distinguish sepsis, a fast-moving blood infection that is the leading cause of organ failure, from inflammation related to injury. Both pneumonia and sepsis are major problems in the ICU.

To develop the gene chip technology and evaluate its use in patients, Cobb has brought together scientists from diverse fields — genomics, surgery, anesthesiology, engineering, bioinformatics, mathematics and immunology.

"That takes a special talent, not only to bring different people together, but to get buy-in for how to move forward," says Timothy Eberlein, M.D., the Bixby Professor and chairman of the Department of Surgery. "Perren Cobb is a world-class researcher and the nicest guy in the world. He has a vision for what it takes to solve complex medical problems in the real world. My only regret is that I can't clone him."

On a national level, Cobb recently led the inaugural meeting of the U.S. Critical Illness and Injury Trials Group. The gathering brought together for the first-time critical-care physicians, nurses and researchers to establish a cooperative research framework and clinical protocols that evaluate different approaches to caring for critically ill patients.

### Making a difference

Cobb was drawn to the field of surgery by his role model and mentor Hiram C. Polk Jr., M.D., former chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Louisville School of Medicine, where Cobb earned a medical degree. Polk was a general surgeon who had special expertise in trauma surgery.

"I came under his spell as a second-year medical student, and I wanted to be just like him," Cobb says. "He was a champion for every patient, and when I made rounds with him, I found the care of the critically ill and injured to be a very seductive field because it was so exciting."

Cobb completed a general surgery residency at the University of California, San Francisco, followed by two critical-care fellowships, one at the National Institutes of Health and the other at the University of Pittsburgh.

He came to Washington University in 1995, intending to spend his career in the operating room as a trauma surgeon.

"But over time, it became very clear to me that I was increasingly attracted to what was going on in the ICU and the many questions we needed to answer to improve patient outcomes," Cobb says.

In 2001, Cobb joined other researchers throughout the country as part of a massive study of trauma, funded by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences under a so-called "glue grant" mechanism. The 10-year project is teasing apart the complex set of events involved in the body's reaction to traumatic injury.

That collaboration also was a springboard to others to advance the use of genomics to help track the course of critical illness.

"Perren is able to find the people who are involved in state-of-the-art research, who work with cutting-edge technologies and in fields not connected to medicine but that have a lot to offer to medicine," says

collaborator Jeanine P. Wiener-Kronish, M.D., anesthetist-in-chief at Massachusetts General Hospital. "He brings these people together so that ideas are shared and important work can be accomplished."

In the SICU, Cobb is highly regarded as a passionate advocate for his patients and a calm presence in a high-stress environment.

"Dr. Cobb has a superb bedside manner and brings out the best in everyone involved in the care of patients he is overseeing," says Walter A. Boyle III, M.D., professor of anesthesiology and of surgery and director of the Anesthesiology Critical Care Division. "Perren's ability to put staff at ease and listen to their views optimizes the chances for good outcomes for patients."

Although 5 million people are admitted to ICUs each year, and their care accounts for 15 percent to 20 percent of inpatient hospital costs, there are no national advocacy groups focused on ICU care as there are for cancer, heart disease and other specific conditions. Likewise, no federal agency is designated to fund critical care research. In raising awareness of the need for more attention to his field, Cobb finds the French term for his specialty particularly useful.

"We are challenged by the fact that the community we serve, patients and the public, has no idea what an intensivist is," he says. "But a réanimateur — now that gets people's attention. They don't walk away from that conversation."

### J. Perren Cobb

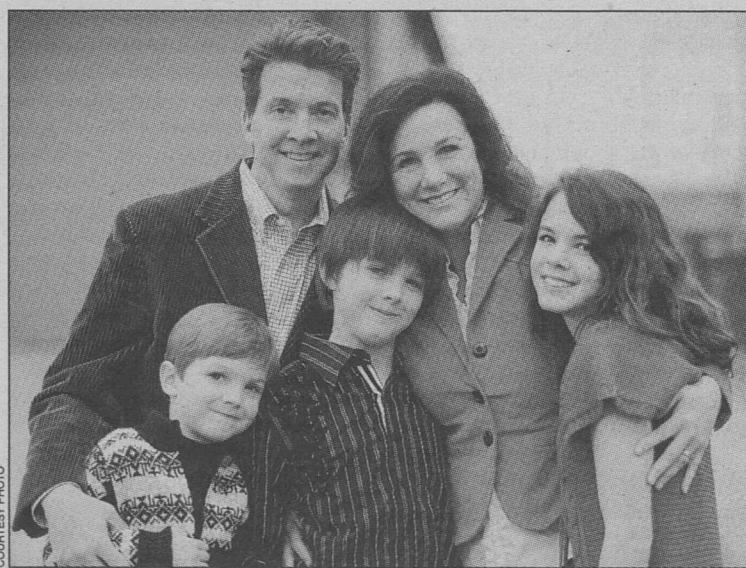
**Hometown:** Louisville, Ky.

**Education:** B.A., Vanderbilt University; M.D., University of Louisville School of Medicine

**Titles:** Professor of surgery and of anesthesiology and associate professor of genetics. Cobb also founded and now directs the Center for Critical Illness and Health Engineering, which improves outcomes for the critically ill and injured through innovative biomedical research and hospital performance improvement.

**Family:** Wife, Cindy; daughter, Shelby, 13; and sons Everett, 11, and Marshall, 5

**Hobbies:** Attending children's school activities and sporting events and reading *The Economist*, *The New York Times* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*



The Cobb family: (clockwise from top) J. Perren Cobb; wife, Cindy; daughter, Shelby, 13; and sons Everett, 11, and Marshall, 5.